

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 /108 W

----- 056168

R 271453Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0129

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2830

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SOCI, SF

SUBJ: REMOVAL OF SEVERAL THOUSAND AFRICANS FROM EASTERN TRANSVAL

1. IN MARCH, STATE PRESIDENT FOUCHE SIGNED AN ORDER FOR THE EJECTION OF SOME 3000 TO 4000 BAPEDI TRIBESMEN FROM THEIR HOMES AT DOORNKOP, ABOUT TWELVE MILES NORTH OF MIDDLEBERG IN EASTERN TRANSVAAL. THIS GROUP OF BAPEDI HAD BEEN LIVING ON 1137 ACRE FARM WHICH HAD BEEN PURCHASED BY 200 BAPEDI SEVENTY YEARS AGO. ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO FARM WAS DECLARED A "BLACK SPOT", SCHEDULED TO BECOME PART OF WHITE AREA, AND EXPROPRIATED IN NAME OF SA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. SINCE THEN THE RESIDENTS HAVE BATTLED TO REMAIN ON THE FARM. BANTU AFFAIRS OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY THAT AN ESTIMATED 18,000 OTHER TRIBESMEN, MOSTLY SOUTH NDEBELES, WHO ARE SQUATTING ON THE DOORNKOP FARM WILL BE MOVED AT A FUTURE DATE WHEN ACCOMMODATIONS CAN BE PREPARED FOR THEM.

2. AFTER EJECTION ORDER SIGNED, BAPEDI SAID THEY WOULD REFUSE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES VOLUNTARILY. AT DAWN JUNE 26 SCORES OF ARMED BLACK AND WHITE POLICEMEN LED BY DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER OF POLICE FOR EASTERN TRANSVAAL MOVED INTO

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DOORNKOP WITH SOME SIXTY TRUCKS AND PROCESS OF MOVING

BAPEDI BEGAN. THE PEOPLE, ALONG WITH FUNITURE, BUILDING MATERIALS, AND LIVESTOCK ARE BEING MOVED TO THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN LEBOWA HOMELAND.

3. A BANTU OFFICIAL SAID SIX HUNDRED BAPEDI FAMILIES WOULD BE MOVED TO BOTHASHOEK, ABOUTH 180 MILES FROM DOORNKOP. HE SAID WATER PIPES, SEWAGE FACILITIES AND SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN BUILT AND THAT "EACH FAMILY WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A CORRUGATED HUT WHICH THEY CAN BUY FOR R100." LARGER FAMILIES WOULD BE GIVEN TENTS.

4. COMMENT: SAG CONTINUES ASSIDOUSLY TO TRY TO CONVINCE OUTSIDE WORLD OF REASONABLENESS AND WORKABILITY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT POLICY. HUMAN COST OF ITS APPLICATION, HOWEVER, IS NOT EASILY OBSCURED AND OBVIOUSLY WILL WEIGH HEAVILY AGAINST ITS ACCEPTABILITY.
HURD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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